

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for packaging rolls of web material such as rolls of paper, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a wrapper dispensing system for dispensing wrapping onto a roll of web material, said wrapper dispensing system comprising a wrapper dispensing station and a wrapper dispensing means,

supporting ~~[[a]]~~ the roll of web material on a roll rotation station,

rotating said roll rotation station with said roll of web material supported thereon, said wrapper dispensing system remaining stationary relative to said rotating supported roll,

dispensing wrapping onto the rotating supported roll from said wrapper dispensing station via said dispensing means so that a first wrapping is wound so as to form on said rotating supported roll,

moving the roll rotation station stepwise laterally in the axial direction of the rotating supported roll relative to the wrapper dispensing system after dispensing said first wrapping, and

dispensing wrapping onto the rotating supported roll from said wrapper dispensing station via said dispensing means after the moving step so that a second wrapping is wound so as to form on said rotating supported roll, said second wrapping being formed to overlap said first wrapping in a stagewise manner.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein each of said first and second wrappings is wound in a slightly helical manner onto the roll.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein layers of wound wrapping have sharp edges that are aligned partially or entirely overlapping so that a staggered stepped bond can be formed therebetween.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2 wherein the slightly helical manner by which the wrapping is wound is performed by the movement of the roll rotation station laterally relative to the wrapper dispensing system during the wrapping dispensing operation.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein the wrapping is aligned in a slightly helical position in regard to the roll rotation station.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of, after dispensing said second wrapping, wherein the wrapping being dispensed is a stagewise overlapping paper wrapping, wrapping a plastic wrap in a helical manner onto the rotating supported roll, said plastic wrap being dispensed from a plastic wrap dispenser incorporated into the wrapper dispensing system.

7-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the roll of web material is formed from paper and the wrapper is formed from paper.

21. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein each of said first and second wrappings is wound in a slightly helical manner onto the roll, and said second wrapping is wound as a stagewise overlapping wrapping of said first wrapping.

22. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said moving and dispensing steps are repeated so that at least a third overlapping wrapping is wound so as to form on said rotating supported roll.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, further comprising the step of, after dispensing said at least third wrapping, wherein the wrapping being dispensed is a stagewise overlapping paper wrapping, wrapping a plastic wrap in a helical manner onto the rotating supported roll, said plastic wrap being dispensed from a plastic wrap dispenser incorporated into the wrapper dispensing system.

24. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein overlapping wrapper edges of each of said first and second wrappings are disposed in a regularly staggered fashion such that only a single overlapping wrapper edge of said second wrapping superposed over said first wrapping is visible when said second wrapping has been completed.

25. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the roll of web material resists deformation in an axial direction.

26. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the first and second wrappings are distinct.

27. (Previously Presented) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein each of the first and second wrappings is wound oriented perpendicular to the roll.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for packaging rolls, comprising:
providing a wrapper dispensing arrangement for dispensing wrapping onto a roll of web material;
supporting the roll on a roll rotation station;
rotating the roll rotation station with the roll supported thereon, the wrapper dispensing arrangement remaining stationary relative to the rotating supported roll;
dispensing a first wrapping onto the rotating supported roll from the wrapper dispensing arrangement;
moving the roll rotation station stepwise laterally in an axial direction of the rotating supported roll relative to the wrapper dispensing arrangement after dispensing the first wrapping;
and
dispensing a second wrapping onto the rotating supported roll from the wrapper dispensing arrangement after the moving operation;
wherein the second wrapping overlaps the first wrapping in a stagewise manner.

29. (Previously Presented) The method for packaging rolls according to claim 28, wherein the roll includes paper.

30. (Previously Presented) The method for packaging rolls according to claim 28, further comprising, after the dispensing of the first wrapping operation and before the moving the roll rotation station laterally operation, stopping the dispensing of the first wrapping operation.